

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Kerry White, on January 9, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Kerry White, Chair (R)
Rep. Zach Brown, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Theresa Manzella, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Bob Brown (R)
Rep. Virginia Court (D)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. John Fleming (D)
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Mark Noland (R)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lexi Goble, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 38, 12/29/2016; HB 48, 12/29/2016; HB 49, 12/29/2016

HEARING ON HB 38

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:14 Rep. Willis Curdy (D), HD 98, opened the hearing on HB 38, Revise allowable harvest volume for certain state land timber harvest.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:54 Sonya Germann, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT\(nah06a01\)](#)

00:09:42 Chair White

00:09:50 Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resource Association (TSRA)

00:10:37 Jim Brown, Citizens for Balanced Use (CBU)

00:11:49 Chair White

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:12:22 Rep. B. Brown

00:13:03 Rep. Curdy

00:13:11 Rep. Fitzgerald

00:13:39 Sonya Germann, DNRC

00:14:14 Chair White

00:14:51 Sonya Germann, DNRC

00:15:29 Chair White

00:15:36 Rep. Fleming

00:16:10 Sonya Germann, DNRC

00:16:47 Rep. Court

00:17:05 Sonya Germann, DNRC

00:17:43 Rep. Court

00:17:57 Sonya Germann, DNRC

00:18:16 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

00:18:27 Rep. Curdy

HEARING ON HB 48

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:20:04 Rep. Bob Brown (R), HD 13, opened the hearing on HB 48, Clarify definition of water right change.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:21:33 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Associates of Realtors (MAR)
00:23:40 Chair White
00:23:54 Jim Brown, self
00:25:50 Chair White
00:25:55 Chelcie Cargill, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
00:26:55 Chair White
00:27:01 Krista lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC)
00:27:47 Chair White
00:27:51 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
00:28:28 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)

EXHIBIT(nah06a02)

00:29:46 Chair White
00:29:57 Levi Ostberg, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)
00:30:38 Chair White

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:30:59 Jan Langel, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:31:26 Rep. Flynn
00:32:11 Jan Langel, DNRC
00:32:32 Rep. Flynn
00:32:43 Jan Langel, DNRC
00:33:40 Rep. Curdy
00:34:19 Chair White
00:34:44 Vice Chair Z. Brown
00:35:05 Chair White
00:35:08 Vice Chair Z. Brown
00:35:31 Chair White
00:36:57 Jan Langel, DNRC

Closing by Sponsor:

00:37:41 Rep. Bob Brown

HEARING ON HB 49

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:38:32 Rep. Bob Brown (R), HD 13, opened the hearing on HB 49, Clarify process for updating water right transfers.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:43:00 Jan Langel, DNRC

Opponents' Testimony:

00:45:06 Abigail St. Lawrence, MAR

00:46:00 Chair White

00:46:04 Krista lee Evans, SWRC, Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)

EXHIBIT(nah06a03)

00:49:20 Chair White

00:49:32 Mike Murphy, MWRA

00:50:25 Chair White

00:50:33 Chelcie Cargill, MFBF

00:51:20 Chair White

00:51:25 Jay Bodner, MSGA

00:52:11 Chair White

00:52:16 Levi Ostberg, MFU

00:53:07 Chair White

00:53:14 Jim Brown, Montana Wool Growers Association (MWGA)

00:55:00 Chair White

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:55:20 Rep. Curdy

00:55:55 Jan Langel, DNRC

00:56:27 Rep. Curdy

00:56:31 Jan Langel, DNRC

00:56:42 Rep. Curdy

00:57:00 Jan Langel, DNRC

00:57:23 Rep. Noland

00:57:46 Rep. B. Brown

00:57:57 Rep. Noland

00:58:11 Rep. B. Brown

00:59:18 Rep. Flynn

00:59:52 Krista Lee Evans, SWRC, AGAI

01:00:03 Vice Chair Z. Brown

01:00:42 Krista Lee Evans, SWRC, AGAI

01:01:59 Vice Chair Z. Brown

01:02:31 Jan Langel, DNRC

01:03:29 Rep. Abbott

01:03:54 Jan Langel, DNRC

01:04:34 Rep. Flynn

01:05:34 Jan Langel, DNRC
01:06:19 Chair White
01:07:27 Krista Lee Evans, SWRC, AGAI
01:08:04 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

01:08:16 Rep. B. Brown

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 01:10:37

Lexi Goble, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah06aad.pdf](#))